

Emily McLaughlin Becomes Mrs. Jeff Hunter In Surprise Wedding!



• "If you'd asked me a few months ago if there was any chance that I'd marry someone I'd known for only a month, I would have said there was no such possibility," Emily McLaughlin beamed. She'd just come back from a fast trip to Juarez, Mexico, during which she'd married Jeffrey Hunter, whom she'd known for only a month.

Emily faces the future unafraid even though Jeffrey was divorced twice, and her own first marriage ended in divorce. Jeffrey's two previous marriages—the first to Barbara Rush, lately of *Peyton Place*, the second to model Dusty Bartlett, had ended in divorce. Emily was divorced about a year ago from Bob Lansing. Emily is Scotch, she's cautious, and she has an eleven-year-old son, Bobby, whose welfare is uppermost in her mind. How could she plunge into marriage after knowing Jeffrey for only one month?

She told us, "Well, as far as knowing people goes, we spent a tremendous amount of time together, as much as a lot of other people spend during three or four months. We talked and talked and talked. I have never talked so much in my life.

"As for Bobby, he loves Jeff and has from the

continued on page 72

Emily McLaughlin

continued from page 49

moment he first met him. When he discovered we were in love, his first words were, 'I'm so happy for you, Mom.'

"Jeffrey and I met at a cocktail party a friend had asked us to. I walked in, found I didn't know anybody and was about to leave. Then Jeff said, 'May I have your coat?' We got to talking, then we left the party together. I asked Jeffrey, 'How would you like to have dinner at my house? I have a lot of left-overs from a New Year's Eve dinner. Would that be all right?' He said, 'Fine,' so we went to my house. My son was up with a friend playing the guitar. Bobby had a song lyric out that I had written for him for his Christmas stocking. You see, Bobby has a rock 'n' roll group, so he was working on the lyric. Jeffrey, who plays the organ, got interested and asked if he could take the lyric home with him and compose some music for it. Bobby was thrilled. That's the way our romance started.

"That first day it was just about love at first sight. We started seeing each other constantly. We found we had a lot of things in common, including the fact that Jeffrey is also Scotch. I write poetry and Jeffrey writes music. We started sharing that. I'd never shared my poetry with anybody in my life. My poems had always stayed in my desk drawer.

"Everything was so right between Jeffrey and me, we decided to get married."

Since Emily had never received a final divorce in California, they decided to get

married in Juarez, Mexico. "My son Bobby went along with us to Mexico and he was best man. Jeff and I had to sign all kinds of papers. While I was signing them, Bobby kept asking me, 'Mother, are you and Jeff married yet?' I kept shaking my head 'No,' then suddenly I said happily, 'Now.' Bobby had been very carefully holding on to the ring.

"I know that many weddings in Mexico are tacky, but ours was funny, beautiful and happy. Jeffrey had everything planned; he always has. He has friends in Juarez who expedited things. We got married on February 4th."

The day after the wedding, Emily had to report back at ABC for rehearsals on *General Hospital*. She hopes that she and Jeffrey will be able to have a delayed honeymoon around Easter, when she's on hiatus for two weeks.

Jeffrey has received a number of movie offers, most of them for pictures to be made abroad. But there's one offer for a picture to be made in the United States.

"I hope he accepts that one," she said frankly. "Of course if he goes abroad, Bobby and I will join him if I'm free. Jeffrey and I have both known the heartache of separations in previous marriages. I hope we can avoid them as much as possible.

"Bobby, Jeff and I are a family now. I haven't met Jeffrey's children by his previous marriages, but I'm anxious to. And if ever Jeff and I have a child of our own, I think that would be just lovely."

—by **Dora Albert**

See *Emily McLaughlin on ABC's GENERAL HOSPITAL, Monday through Friday.*